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with a correspondingly constituted inner toothing. By means of this solution, there is formed a common outer mounting extending at least over the positions of the various planetary gears, which in turn makes possible an improved axial stability of the transmission arrangement. Also, this inventive concept thus leads to an improvement of the running characteristics of the arrangement. This second solution comes into consideration in particular when the sun gears and the planetary gears of the individual transmission stages respectively have identical dimensions. In this case, the common hollow gear can be formed via a simple cylinder-like component.

In accordance with a further aspect of the ~~present~~ invention, the components of a planetary transmission are produced at least in part of a ceramic material, whereby preferably silicon nitride ( $\text{Si}_3\text{N}_4$ ) is concerned. This material distinguishes itself through its high stability and favourable frictional properties, through which a particularly effective and wear-free force transfer is made possible. In particular the drive shafts and the planetary gear carriers of the transmission stages, and the toothed gears arranged therein, may be of this ceramic material.

On page 4, line 5 please insert a heading as follows:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

On page 4, line <sup>15</sup>~~16~~ please insert a heading as follows:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION